

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael J. Mlotkowski, Reg. No. 33020, on 07/16/2008.

3. The claims had been amended as following:

a. Cancel claim 1.

b. Claim 2, line 1, replace "1" with "6".

c. Replace claim 6 with the following claim:

Claim 6: A mission collaboration system for executing missions comprising:

(a) at least one mission coordinator;

(b) at least one service node in communication with said at least one mission coordinator; and

(c) wherein said missions comprise a plurality of tasks each generated by said at least one mission coordinator and wherein each task is defined by a task instance structure which is communicated to said at least one service node for execution;

(d) wherein said task instance structure includes a processing engine comprising executable software code which permits said tasks to be executed by

said at least one service node; wherein said task instance structure comprises input information storage designating the location of input data which is necessary for the execution of the task instance and multiple task instances are generated in connection with a single task and wherein said multiple task instances are broadcasted to a plurality of service nodes.

d. Cancel claim 7.

e. Replace claim 13 with the following claim:

Claim 13: A methodology for completing missions in a networked computing environment comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting a mission;
- (b) creating a mission instance, said mission instance comprising at least one task;
- (c) generating at least one task instance associated with one of said at least one tasks;
- (d) transmitting said at least one task instance to at least one service node;
- (e) executing said at least one task instance on said at least one service node;
- (f) receiving the results of said execution of said at least one task instance; and
- (g) applying a rules-based analysis to determine whether and when additional task instances should be created based upon said results;

wherein each of said task instances is represented by a task instance structure and each of said task instances is executed on either a local or a remote service node, said task instance structures comprising executable code, and multiple task instances are generated in connection with a single task, and said

multiple task instances are broadcasted to a plurality of service nodes and said task instance structures comprise input storage indicative of the location of input data necessary for completion of the task associated with said task instance.

f. Cancel claims 17 and 19.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer N. To whose telephone number is (571) 272-7212. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 6AM- 3:30 PM, F 6AM- 2:30 PM.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Page 5